

INHABITANTS OF LA SALLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

APRIL 15, 1836.

Read, and laid upon the table.

Mr. PHILO C. FULLER, from the Committee of Claims, made the following

REPORT:

The Committee of Claims, to which was referred the petition of sundry inhabitants of La Salle county, Illinois, praying compensation for losses of property during the late Black Hawk war, report :

The petitioners state that immediately after the battle on Sycamore creek, the Indians made an incursion into their neighborhood, and burnt and destroyed the houses, goods, and other property of the petitioners, to the amount set opposite to their several names upon the petition, There are sixteen petitioners, and the aggregate of their claim is \$7,462 18.

No explanation, other than that above referred to, is given : and the only testimony is a certificate signed by six individuals on the back of the petition, stating that they are citizens of La Salle county, and that they are convinced of the truth of the facts set forth in the petition, and of the fair and just estimate of the property.

It is obvious that the claims of the petitioners cannot be allowed without much more minute examination and proof ; and the committee are of opinion that, in no event, can property be paid for by the United States, of the description, and destroyed in the manner, set forth in this petition.

It does not appear that these petitioners submitted their claims to the commissioners appointed by General Atkinson, Messrs. Legate and Hempstead ; and the Secretary of War has transmitted to the committee a report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, stating that the United States are not bound by any treaty stipulation to retain from the annuities of tribes committing depredations, and destroying property, sufficient to compensate for losses of the character mentioned in the above named petitions.

The committee submit the following resolution :

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioner ought not to be granted.